

CLAIMS:

1. A method of managing a media system with a group identifier in a network of media systems, the method comprising the steps of:
 - determining a status of the network, wherein the status represents the group identifier, presence and / or absence of at least one media system; and
 - determining the group identifier for at least one media system based on the determined status.
2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of:
 - giving a second group identifier specified by a user to a sixth media system.
3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the step of determining the group identifier comprises the step of:
 - resetting the group identifier, when said media system is disconnected from the network; or
 - giving an existing group identifier to a first media system, when said media system without a group identifier is connected to a second media system having said existing group identifier; or
 - keeping separate group identifiers to a third and a fourth media system, when the third and the fourth media system are connected to the network; or
 - giving a first group identifier specified by a user, when a fifth media system is connected to the network, to one or more media systems where none of these has a group identifier, and assigning the first group identifier to all of said media systems.
- 25 4. A method according to any one of claims 1 through 3, characterized in that the media system is a set-top box, a TV, a PC, a DVD player, a radio, a screen, a camera or a VCR.

5. A computer system for performing the method according to any one of claims 1 through 4.

6. A computer program product comprising program code means stored on a 5 computer readable medium for performing the method of any one of claims 1 through 4 when the computer program is run on a computer.

7. A media system for managing a network of media systems with a group identifier, said media system comprising:
10 - means for determining a status of the network, wherein the status represents the group identifier, presence and / or absence of at least one media system; and - means for determining the group identifier for at least one media system based on the determined status.

15 8. A media system according to claim 7, characterized in that means for determining the group identifier comprises:
- means for resetting the group identifier, when said media system is disconnected from the network;
- means for giving an existing group identifier to a first media system, when 20 said media system without a group identifier is connected to a second media system having said existing group identifier;
- means for keeping separate group identifiers to a third and a fourth media system, when the third and the fourth media system are connected to the network; and - means for giving a first group identifier specified by a user, when a fifth media 25 system is connected to the network, to one or more media systems where none of these has a group identifier, and assigning the first group identifier to all of said media systems.

9. A media system according to claim 7 or 8 characterized in that the media system further comprises:
30 - means for giving a second group identifier specified by a user to a sixth media system.